

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 16**  
**INCIDENT NO. 96-37**  
**DATE: May 7, 1996**      **TIME: 1:00 p.m.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, ND 58504

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring Flood. (Separate situation reports are being issued regarding Devils Lake, incident #96-01.)
2. DEATH AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGE: The five bridges that connect Minnesota and North Dakota, from Oslo north to the Canadian border, remained closed as of May 7. Flooding along the Red River resulted in the closures, restricting travel between the two states.

A continuing, slow fall of river levels has been recorded at all flood reporting stations along rivers in eastern North Dakota.

The flood control pool at Jamestown Dam has fallen to 1,443.27 feet M.S.L., 1.33 feet lower than its maximum level recorded on April 25.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: Governor Schafer upgraded the state emergency declaration of April 15, 1996, to a state disaster declaration on May 6. The upgrade was made on the basis of damage identified by state and local emergency management staff, which totaled nearly \$8 million to public roads and other infrastructure.

State Emergency Management, State Department of Transportation, and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials are coordinating a comprehensive, combined local, state, and federal Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) in eastern North Dakota. Teams are being assembled and logistical arrangements are underway to begin the PDA on May 13. Impacts on state and local transportation infrastructure, individuals, the labor force, federal road systems, cities, and public utility systems will also be assessed.

Governor Schafer has requested the U.S. Department of Agriculture's State Emergency Board to help assess the effect of flooding on the agricultural community and economy as impacts occur.

Boards of County Commissions issuing disaster declarations since the last report include Pierce, Steele and Stutsman Counties. The city of New Rockford also issued a disaster declaration.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The National Weather Service has reported that level of Devils Lake had risen to 1,436.43 feet M.S.L. on May 7. The next State Flood Coordination Center meeting will be held Thursday, May 9, at the Ramsey County Courthouse.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas C. Friez  
State Director